

# The Sixth Sunday of Advent The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

December 17, 2023 10:30 a.m.

Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, we welcome you and invite your full participation in today's worship.

As a courtesy to others, please silence electronic devices.

For the link to the webpage with the announcements and bulletins, use this QR code:

Services are regularly streamed and recorded and you can find them: <a href="http://www.stpaulcathedral.org/watch">http://www.stpaulcathedral.org/watch</a>



ASL interpretation is provided for those seated in the front row on the left facing the Altar.

This service is being streamed live and if you don't wish to be seen on camera, please ask an usher for appropriate seating.

St. Paul's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on unceded Kumeyaay land. We value the knowledge, culture, and worldview of Indigenous people. We commit to the vital work of educating ourselves, increasing community awareness, and promoting reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbors. As we examine actions and practices that perpetuate harm against Indigenous communities, we pledge to work toward a meaningful and respectful relationship as we follow their example in honoring this sacred land.

Approved by the Cathedral Chapter, May 2023

This year we are exploring a minority tradition of observing Advent for seven Sundays.

In a year when the last Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve,
this gives us a little more time and space to live into the beauty of this reflective season.

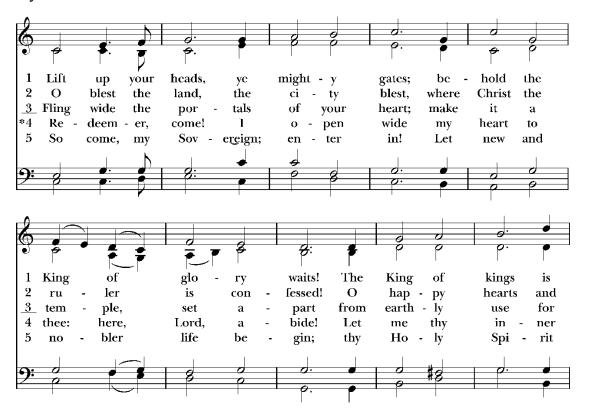
### **Organ Voluntary**

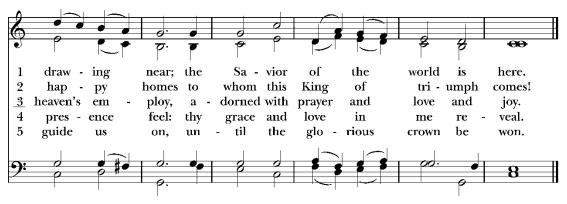
Veni Emmanuel – Solemn Prelude David Lee Heinzman (b. 1959)

#### Welcome and announcements

*§ Please stand as you are able for the tolling of the bell.* 

#### **Hymn 436**





Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica*, *Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

# The Word of God

The Presider says

Our King and Savior now draws near.

People Come, let us adore him.

#### Presider

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

## Kyrie (choir) from Missa Secunda

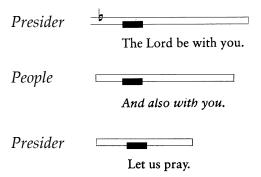
Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

¶ Please remain standing as able.

# The Collect of the Day



#### Presider

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

People Amen.

*§ Please be seated.* 

#### The Lessons

The First Lesson is read, the Reader first saying A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me;

he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,

to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion to give them a garland instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples;

all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

After each Lesson the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.

Answer Thanks be to God.

#### The Psalm

Psalm 126 (choir) BCP 782
In convertendo chant: George M. Garrett

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \* then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \* and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*
  "The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \* and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \* like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \* will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \* will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Second Lesson is read, the Reader first saying 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer Thanks be to God.

*§ Please stand as able when the Presider stands.* 

# Alleluia Verse (Cantor, then all repeat)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord is u/pon me; \*

he has anointed me to preach / good tidings to the poor.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel John 1:6-8,19-28

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

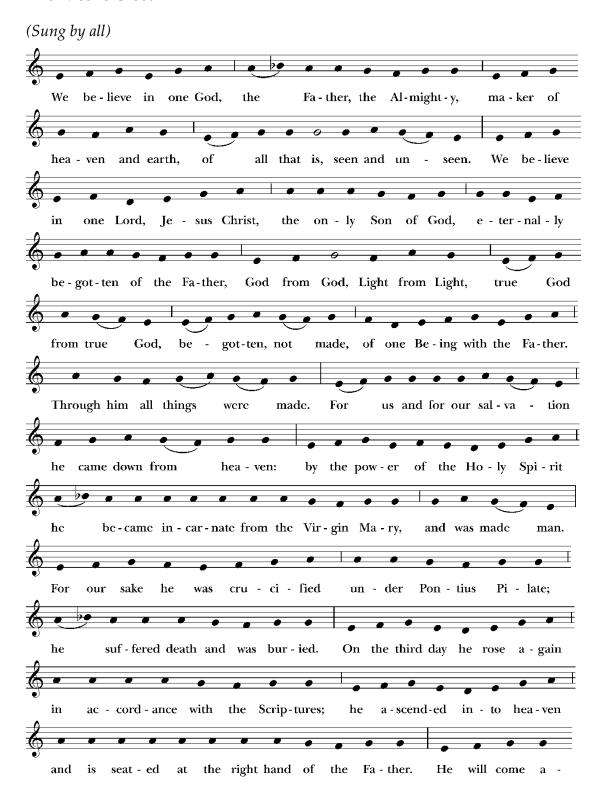
*§ Please be seated at the introduction of the sermon.* 

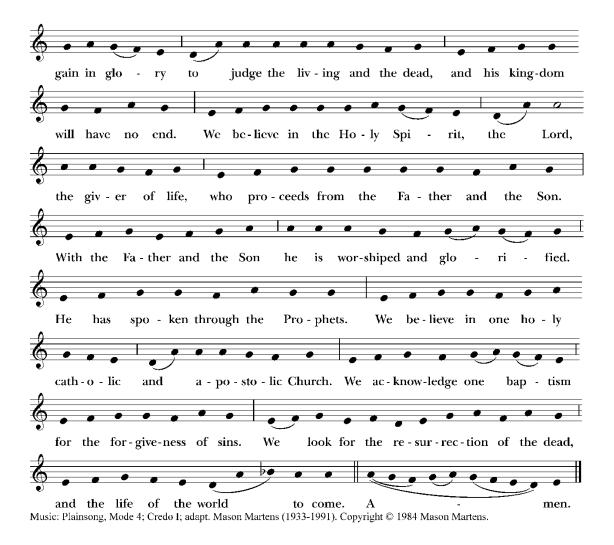
The Sermon

The Reverend Meg Decker

§ After a moment of silence, please stand as able for the Nicene Creed.

## The Nicene Creed





# The Prayers of the People Form III

**BCP 387** 

The Deacon bids the prayers.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for the welfare of the world; for the good earth, for our willingness to care for it, and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on the unsheltered and refugees, and all who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

The Leader offers prayers on behalf of the congregation and bids their prayers.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Leader offers prayers on behalf of the congregation and bids their prayers.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The Leader offers thanksgivings on behalf of the congregation.

Silence

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **Confession of Sin**

The Deacon says to the People

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People together

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name.
Amen.

*The Presider says* 

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.** 

#### The Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

*§* The People offer each other a sign of the Peace.

# The Offertory

You may give online now by using your phone's camera to scan the quick response code:



or text stpaulcathedral to 73256 using your cell phone. Thank you!

# The Holy Communion

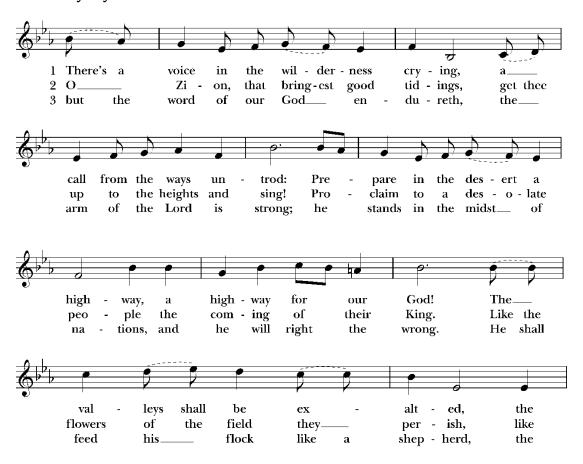
# At the Offertory, Anthem

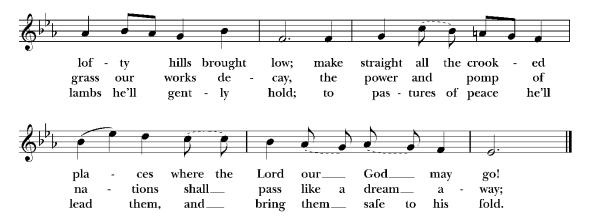
The Lord will surely come Gerre Hancock (b. 1934)

*Kyrie eleison*. The Lord will surely come and not delay; and He will bring to light the things hidden in darkness. The Lord will surely come, and will manifest Himself to all nations. *Kyrie eleison*. Therefore work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, that you may be blameless and innocent, Children of God without blemish. The Lord will surely come. *Kyrie eleison*.

*§ Please stand as able for the following hymn.* 

## Offertory Hymn 75



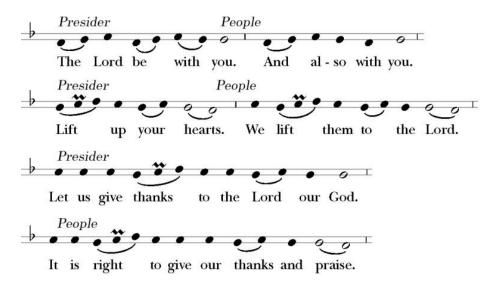


Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music: Ascension, Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988). Copyright © 1938, H. Hugh Bancroft.

§ Please remain standing as able for the Great Thanksgiving

# The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

**BCP 361** 

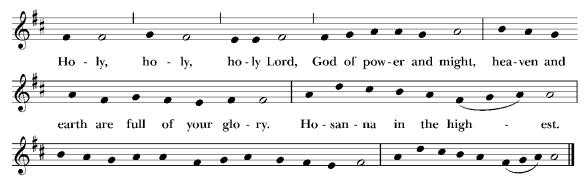


#### The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

#### The Presider continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

#### The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. A Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Paul, and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

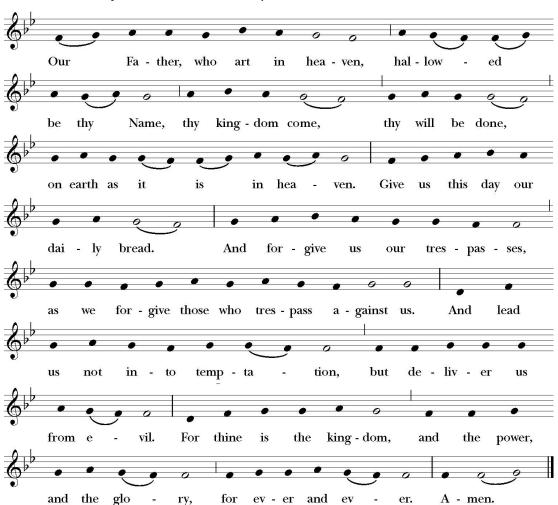
Presider and People



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

# **The Lord's Prayer** (Presider and People)

S 119

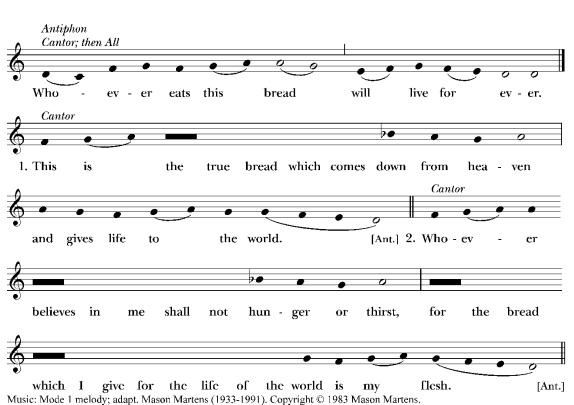


Setting: Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

# The Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence follows as the Bread is broken.* 

#### Fraction Anthem: Whoever eats this bread



#### The Invitation

This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before; you who have tried to follow and you who have failed; come, not because the Church invites you; it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

The Iona Community Worship Book

S 170

# Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After the Invitation has been given, please be seated until you are ushered to the communion stations at the Crossing. Please take your purse or valuables with you.

At Communion time we will offer the Host with the option to have it partially intincted (dipped) by the Eucharistic Minister into the wine and placed in the communicant's hand. For the time being we will not offer the option of drinking from the Common Cup. You may choose to receive only the dry Host or to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament.

As you come forward, please use one of these three gestures to indicate your preference:

- ❖ To receive the host with wine, extend both your hands, palm up.
- ❖ To receive only the host, extend one hand, palm up.
- ❖ To receive a blessing, cross your hands at your shoulders.

*If you need to receive a gluten-free wafer, please go to the station at the extreme left.* 

#### At the Communion, Agnus Dei (choir) from Missa Secunda

Hassler

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Anthem

When the Lord turned again Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion; then were we like unto them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with joy.

Then said they among the heathen: the Lord hath done great things for them.

Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already, whereof we rejoice.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. [Psalm 126:1-3]

§ After a moment of silence, please stand as you are able for the following prayer:

#### The Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

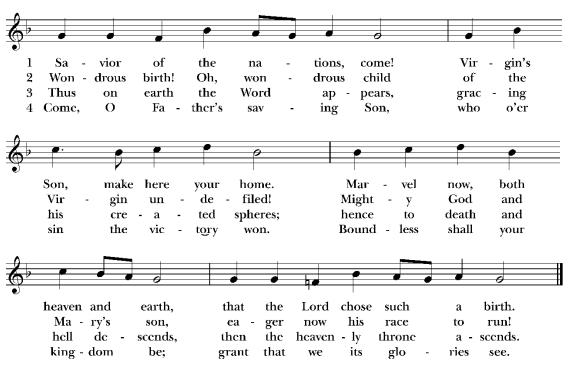
All Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider may bless the people.

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, ♣ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

Hymn 54



Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Warring McCrady (b. 1938). Sts. 3-4 Copyright © 1982, James Warring McCrady. Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from *Erfurt Enchiridia*, 1524; harm. Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616).

#### The Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

# **Organ Voluntary**

Fanfare and Advent Toccata
David Lee Heinzman

§ The clergy, altar party, and people depart.

If you choose not to remain for the Organ Voluntary, please leave quietly out of respect for those who would like to stay and listen or pray for a while. Thank you.

#### Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider & Dean: The Very Rev. Penny Bridges

*Preacher:* The Rev. Meg Decker

Deacon: The Rev. Cn. Brooks Mason

Assisting: The Rev. Cn. Richard Hogue, Jr.

Healing: The Rev. Cn. Richard Lief Readers: Rockette Ewell, Julia Gorman

Intercessor: Carolyn Lief

Head Verger: Cn. Lisa Churchill

Verger: Stephanie Pierce Subverger: Stacey Klaman

Altar Servers: Andi Price, Robert Reed, Bart Smoot

Thurifer: Judy MacDonald

Altar Guild: Tom Barb, Julia Gorman, Steve Mater, Joyce Vogel, Elaine Wolfe

ASL Interpreter: Cherie Dean Head Usher: Cn. Lucinda Parsons

Usher-in-Charge: John Will

Ushers: Pat Crary, Darien De Lorenzo, Micah Lomax, Paula Peeling, Kevin Van Wanseele

Director of Music: Cn. Martin Green Assistant Organist: Gabriel Arregui

Choir: The Cathedral Choir Cathedral Audio: Bob Knight

Audio/Visual Technicians: Stacey Klaman, Marshall Moore, Mike Thornburgh, Jim Wright,

Kelsey Young, Paul Young

#### **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**Lessons & Carols for Christmas** – *December 17, 5 pm with 4:30 pm Britten "Ceremony of Carols" with the St Cecilia Alumni choir,* In Person and Live-Streamed

**The Last Sunday of Advent** – *Sunday December 24, 10:30 am* Holy Eucharist with the Rev. Mark Trotter, Preacher.

Christmas Eve Family Service - Sunday, December 24, 5 pm, In Person in the Cathedral

**Solemn Midnight Mass** - *Sunday, December 24, 10:30 pm (Prelude 10 pm),* In Person and Live-Streamed

Christmas Day Choral Eucharist - Monday, December 25, 10:30 am, In Person in the Cathedral

**New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk and Evening Prayer** - *Sunday, December 31, 5 pm,* In Person in the Dean's Courtyard

**Holy Name Eucharist** - *Monday, January 1, 10:30 am,* In Person in the Chapel of the Holy Family. Joyce Vogel, Preacher.

In the unlikely event of an emergency requiring us to evacuate the cathedral please follow the directions of the ushers and vergers, and remain as quiet and calm as possible.

Please locate an exit nearest you.

*The exit doors are:* 

- ❖ South porch doors at Nutmeg Street and Fifth Avenue
- North porch doors to Fifth Avenue Courtyard
- ❖ South transept east and west doors to Nutmeg Street
- ❖ Northeast hallway door to Fifth Avenue breezeway
- ❖ West chapel (to the left of chapel altar) stairs leading down to landing.